



ELC Update

ADVOCACY WORKS!

Governor Crist Restores \$5.8 Million in Statewide School Readiness Funds

Governor Crist used his line-item veto power on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, and reversed some \$22.8 million in cuts to health and social service programs, including \$5.8 million (a 4% reduction) for school readiness programs. The turnaround has saved an estimated 1,450 children from losing services. "Parents who are already struggling to make ends meet who then lose their childcare services run the risk of becoming entirely dependent on government cash assistance," said the Governor.

As a result of his commitment to education and our collective advocacy efforts, Governor Crist reinforced his commitment to protect our children's early education, despite the difficulties of current economic times. "Our hard work and partnership with the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) have paid off, and we are pleased to report that more than \$1.1 million of the Early Learning Coalition's school readiness funding has been restored," said Evelio C. Torres, President and CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe.

Federal Spending for Education

An economic stimulus plan is scheduled for a vote today, January 28, 2009, that will provide \$150 billion in federal spending for education over two years. This figure more than doubles the Department of Education's current budget, and is the largest proposed investment of its kind since the days following World War II. With the approval of the plan, additional monies will be allocated to early learning programs and services. Our voices can and do make a difference; the Governor's veto of budget cuts to AWI's Office of Early Learning confirms this. Join us as we continue to rally at the federal level on behalf of our children and their right to a quality early childhood education.

Information on the economic stimulus plan was provided by ["Stimulus Plan Would Provide Flood of Aid to Education," The New York Times](#).

Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe
2555 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, 5th Floor. Coral Gables, Florida 33134

This email was sent to gcarreras@elcmdm.org by info@elcmdm.org.
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe | 2555 Ponce de Leon Boulevard | Suite 500 | Coral Gables | FL | 33134